Instructions in mother tongue at primary stage

†992. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of success achieved in introducing primary education in mother tongue;

(b) the number of schools where primary education is not being provided in mother tongue, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken so far in accordance with the Directive enshrined in article 350A of the Constitution and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to Article 350 A of the Constitution of India, "it shall be the endeavour of every State and of every local authority within the State to provide adequate facilities for instruction in the Mother Tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups". The Government of India has consistently supported the view that Mother Tongue is the best medium of instruction at the primary stage. The National Curriculum Framework (2005) also endorses the use of Mother Tongue in primary education.

Section 29(2)(f) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 also provides that the medium of instruction shall, as far as practicable, be in child's Mother Tongue. Data on the medium of instruction in schools is not maintained centrally.

PPP in school education

993. MS. MABEL REBELLO:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a clear move to promote Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) in school education his Ministry has set up a round table consisting of educationists and representatives of the private sector;

(b) whether the eleven member round table, which held its first meeting in September, has suggested ways in which school education can be revamped;

(c) whether his Ministry wants a synergy between Government and private sector;

(d) whether Government has big plans in school education and such a round table will help thrash out issues; and

(e) if so, the decisions taken by the eleven member Committee and the steps being taken to implement them?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) A 'Round Table on School Education' has been constituted to advise and make recommendations on improving the school education system in the country and to suggest means of implementation thereof. The first round table was held on 24.9.2009, wherein 5 Sub Committees were set up, one of which was on public private partnership in school education. The purpose of the public private partnership is to make use of private finance and expertise for public purpose.

Discussions in the Round Table are an on-going process, and it is only one of the several fora for interactions on school education.

The Central Government is committed to make school education of good quality available, accessible and affordable to all children. At elementary stage, this is being done through centrally sponsored programme like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid Day Meal. At secondary stage, a new programme called Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) has been launched recently to universalize access to secondary education and to improve its quality.

Shortage of teachers

994. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of about five lakh teachers in the country for implementing the Right to Education Law; and

(b) if so, the details of the requirement of teachers and the steps being taken for recruitment of quality teachers for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The National University for Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) has, at the instance of the Government, prepared estimates for additional requirement of teachers on the basis of the Pupil Teacher Ratio norms prescribed under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, according to which around 5.10 lakh additional teachers would be required for the country as a whole at the elementary level. The Act has not yet come into force.

Review mechanism for deemed universities

995. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UGC and his Ministry have set up parallel mechanisms to review the recognition and functioning of the deemed universities;